

REMARKS

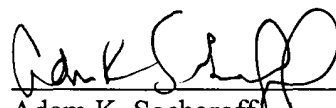
Please cancel the original 1-16 claims and insert new claim 17.

Applicant respectfully requests that Figures 1, 2, 3, 4A, and 13B as originally filed be replaced with the enclosed proposed drawings. Redline changes have not been provided, since the above noted changes, should provide the Patent Office with the proper explanation as to the changes. Applicant herein requests that the drawings are formal drawings and should be forwarded to the Chief Draftsman upon the Patent Office's approval.

Applicant respectfully asserts that all amendments herein are properly entered and no new matter is submitted. In addition, this continuation application is being filed under CFR §1.53(b) and is based upon a prior non-provisional application filed on July 6, 1999, Ser. No. 09/777,336. The prior non-provisional application received a notice of allowance on March 20, 2003 and the issue fee has been paid, received by the Patent Office on June 24, 2003, however, the patent has not issued as of yet. Therefore, under 35 USC §120 this continuation application is entitled to benefit from the prior non-provisional application, since it is being filed between the time the issue fee is paid and the patent issues.

Also enclosed, please find a check in the amount of \$375.00, a certificate of express mailing and a postcard.

Respectfully submitted,

 9/5/03
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Amdt. dated September 5, 2003
Preliminary Amendment

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aks/0735102.pa05